ROUTING AND SWITCHING IN A HYBRID NETWORK

ABSTRACT

5   A protocol-independent framework that facilitates routing and switching in a network that has hybrid nodes is described. Using the framework, optical paths are established between and among nodes statically and dynamically. When the paths are established dynamically, the paths maybe explicitly established or shared. Traffic is transported using switching wavelengths, routing wavelengths,

10   and/or control wavelengths. Traffic transported on switching wavelengths is switched in the optical domain. Traffic transported on routing wavelengths is routed according to the OSI reference model.